

St Giles Presbyterian Church



*The Law of the Lord is
Sweeter than Honey &
More Precious than Gold*

March 16, 2025

St Giles Presbyterian Church

Greeting and Welcome

Leading in worship is guest speaker The Reverend Dr. Roland De Vries. We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors. Let us together know the joy and wonder of worshipping God. There are sermon texts available. Please speak with an usher, if you have any questions. The church is fully accessible with an elevator, ramps and an accessible washroom.

A Note on Our Worship

The symbol ** means please stand if you are able

Forward in Faith — Our Vision

St Giles Presbyterian Church seeks to be a welcoming, fully-alive faith community, which shares Christ's vision for the world and responds in a Christ-like manner to the present-day challenges of our society and world in partnership with all who seek to make Christ's vision for the world a present reality.

Church Office, 181 First Avenue, Ottawa, ON K1S 2G3

613-235-2551 office@stgilesottawa.org www.stgilesottawa.org

Minister: The Rev. Paul Wu 613-276-2551 paulwu55@yahoo.ca

Church Administrator: Rosemary Bann

Office hours: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Music Director: Heather Rice 613-563-1409 gowans978@gmail.com

Vocalist: Katie Gratton

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabeg People. The Algonquin peoples have lived on this land since time immemorial. We are grateful to have the opportunity to be present in this territory.

Prelude: *Offertory on 'Slane'* by William France

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Happy are those whose way is blameless,

All: Who walk in the law of the Lord.

One: Happy are those who keep God's decrees,

All: Who seek the Lord with their whole heart

One: Blessed are you, O Lord; teach us your statutes.

All: With our lips we declare all the ordinances of your mouth.

One: With our hearts we declare your praise.

****Hymn:** We are God's people

472

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

Unison Prayer of Confession

O loving God,

We know that we can be self-preoccupied.

We are reminded that neighbour-love

does not always come naturally to us.

We know that we have a hard time trusting you fully with our lives.

We have a hard time trusting that the future belongs to you in Christ, and that his kingdom is the deepest reality of our world and lives.

And so this day,

O God, we seek your forgiveness and your grace.

We seek the power of your Spirit so that we may live in joy and courage and in the love of our neighbours.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, for ever. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Scripture

First Reading: Leviticus 19:1–14, 30–37 (NRSV)

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: "Speak to all the congregation of the Israelites and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy. You

shall each revere your mother and father, and you shall keep my Sabbaths: I am the Lord your God. Do not turn to idols or make cast images for yourselves: I am the Lord your God.

Psalms 19:7–10 *(with refrain 1)*

The law of the Lord is perfect,
reviving the soul;
the decrees of the Lord are sure,
making wise the simple;
**the precepts of the Lord are right,
rejoicing the heart;**
**the commandment of the Lord is clear,
enlightening the eyes;**
the fear of the Lord is pure,
enduring forever;
the ordinances of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.
**More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey,
and drippings of the honeycomb.**

Second Reading: Leviticus 19:30–37

You shall keep my Sabbaths and revere my sanctuary: I am the Lord. "Do not turn to mediums and spiritualists; do not seek them out, to be defiled by them: I am the Lord your God. "You shall rise before

the aged and defer to the old, and you shall fear your God: I am the Lord. "When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the native-born among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God. "You shall not cheat in measuring length, weight, or quantity. You shall have honest balances, honest weights, an honest ephah, and an honest hin: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt. You shall keep all my statutes and all my ordinances and observe them: I am the Lord."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** The Spirit breathes upon the word **506**

Sermon Don't Mess Me 'Round' (by Dr. Roland De Vries)

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** With the Lord as my guide **574**

Passing of the Peace

Announcements

Offering

Doxology:

830

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

Prayer of Dedication

****Hymn:** Your word, O God, awoke the uncreated **508**

Benediction

Postlude *Sonata de 1 tono*

by José Lidon

William France, 1912-1980, composer of today's Prelude was an organist, pianist and teacher. He was organist-choirmaster at Dominion-Chalmers United Church in Ottawa 1950-1980, thereafter serving in an honorary capacity. Mr. France taught harmony & counterpoint at the University of Ottawa 1973-1976 and was an examiner for the Toronto Conservatory of Music.



St Giles Events

Monday, March 17 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour by teleconference.

Tuesday, March 18 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Session will meet in person.

Wednesday, March 19 ~ 3:30 p.m.

Centennial Committee meeting

Friday, March 21 ~ 12:00 p.m.

Bible Study by teleconference. The Book of Proverbs 30,
The Words of Agur



Joining the Meeting, Conference Call or Bible Study

1. Three to five minutes before the start time, call toll-free 1-888-884-4539.
2. You will be asked to enter the passcode number 7455703#.



Guest speaker

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of St Giles we have invited Dr. Roland De Vries as guest speaker for the Sunday, of March 16th. The Reverend De Vries is the principal of the Presbyterian College and will be sharing with us some exciting current ministries of the college.

Help for the Needy

In addition to their existing donation programs: food for the Centretown Emergency Food Bank, used stamps for Oxfam poverty relief, and eyeglasses for the Lion's Club Recycle for Sight program, the Women's Committee is newly collecting used coloured plastic milk bags to be woven into bed mats and seat cushions for the those in need in our neighbourhood and for use at the Centre 507 drop-in nearby. Donations can be left in marked containers in the Narthex at the entrance to the church. Thank you!

Ottawa and Seaway-Glengarry Presbytery

Join your brothers and sisters across the Ottawa and Seaway-Glengarry Presbytery for an online Bible Study in 1 John that is being led by Sunjay Henry, the Presbytery Animator. The study takes place on Monday afternoons

from 12pm-1pm. Please email Sunjay at prezminimator@gmail.com for the Zoom link or if you have any questions.

Presbytery Youth

Our next presbytery event will take place on Friday March 28th at 7pm. We will be meeting at St. Timothy's Presbyterian Church. The evening will consist of fellowship, worship, activities, discussion and snacks.

Our special project for the event will be writing encouragement notes to university students who will be writing their final exams. Hope to see you there!

Calling ALL youth!

As part of the Presbytery's 150th anniversary celebration on Saturday May 4th, the planning committee has asked for youth to join the celebration and participate in the following areas: possibly reading Scripture, ushering, serving refreshments, receiving offerings. If any of these areas interest, please reach out to Sunjay Henry via email at prezminimator@gmail.com or on Instagram @prezzyyouthonfire

Mission Moment

With support from Presbyterians Sharing, Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre in Montreal, QC offers March Break and Summer Camps that are vital avenues for learning, growth, and community connection. These programs provide a safe and engaging environment where children not only enjoy exciting activities and real-life skills, but also enhance their literacy skills through initiatives like the Literacy Camp in the summer. Beyond the immediate joy, these camps play a crucial role in fostering social and skills development, teamwork, and personal confidence.



(Photo from PCC)



Presbyterians
Sharing



The Presbyterian Church in Canada